

Message Text

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15

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7296

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

UNCLAS MOSCOW 2174

USIA: FOR IOP/M

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US

SUBJ: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY FEBRUARY 18

1. U.S. PRAVDA CARRIES THE TEXT OF THE U.S.-SOVIET STATEMENT
ISSUED IN GENEVA ON INSIDE INTERNATIONAL PAGE. OTHER PAPERS
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CARRY ONLY TASS NEWS ITEMS ON SECRETARY'S TALKS WITH GROMYKO.

PRAVDA AND SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA HAVE A TASS REPORT ON PRESIDENT FORD'S INTERVIEW WITH THE WASHINGTON STAR-NEWS. FOCUS OF THE REPORT IS ON THE PRESIDENT'S CRITICISM OF CONGRESS FOR ITS ACTION ON THE TRADE ACT AND MILITARY AID TO TURKEY.

2. USSR-UK. WIND-UP OF PRIME MINISTER WILSON'S VISIT IS GIVEN EXTRAORDINARILY HEAVY COVERAGE IN ALL MAJOR MORNING PAPERS (SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS SEPTELS). PAPERS CARRY FRONT-PAGE PHOTO OF WILSON AND BREZHNEV SIGNING JOINT DOCUMENTS AND PRINT FULL TEXTS OF UK-SOVIET STATEMENT AND PROTOCOL ON CONSULTATIONS (BUT NOT NPT DECLARATION). ANNOUNCEMENT OF PRIME MINISTER'S PRIVATE MEETING WITH BREZHNEV FEBRUAR 17 AND OTHER NEWS STOREIS AOBUT THE VISIT ARE ALSO GIVEN EXTENSIVE FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE.

3. USSR-FRANCE. PRAVDA CARRIES PAGE-ONE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT PRIME MINISTER CHIRAC WILL VISIT MOSCOW FEBRUARY 19-24.

4. MIDDLE EAST. PRAVDA ANNOUNCES THE ARRIVAL IN MOSCOW FEBRUARY 17 OF EGYPTIAN ECONOMIC AND TRADE DELEGATION. ACCORDING TO TASS THE DELEGATION IS LED BY EGYPTIAN MINISTER OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION AMIN AND INCLUDES MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE MADBULY (PHONETIC).

SEPARATE DAMASCUS-DATELINED TASS ITEM CITES SYRIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER IN AN INTERVIEW WITH AMERICAN JOURNALISTS AS SAYING THAT SYRIA REJECTS PARTIAL AND SEPARATE SETTLEMENTS OF THE ME CRISIS AND THAT MEPC WITH PLO PARTICIPATION IS THE "ONLY PLACE" FOR ACHIEVING A "FULL" ME SETTLEMENT.

5. CYPRUS-GREECE-TURKEY. MAJOR DAILIES CARRY NICOSIA-DATELINED TASS STORY REPORTING THAT ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS HAS STATED HE "HIGHLY APPRECIATED" THE FEBRUARY 17 TASS STATEMENT ON CYRPUS. TASS REPORTS THE ARCHBISHOP CHARACTERIZED THE TURKISH-CYRPIOT ACTION IN DECLARING A SEPARATE STATE AS ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO PARTITION THE ISLAND WHICH WOULD ONLY SERVE FOREIGN INTERESTS. ON TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS, RED STAR CARRIES BRIEF TASS STORY REPORTING THAT TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER ESENBEL IN A NEWSEEK INTERVIEW SAID TURKEY INTENDS TO CLOSE ALL OF SOME OF THE U.S. BASES IN TURKEY.

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6. CAMBODIA. PRAVDA' INTERNATIONAL LEADER (TASS) REPORTS VICTORIES BY INSURGENTS NEAR PHNOM PENH. REPORTS FROM BANGKOK ARE ACCOMPANIED BY A WASHINGTON-DATELINED TASS REPORT THAT THE U.S. HAS BEGUN AN AIRLIFT OF MILITARY SUPPLIES TO THE BELEAGUERED CAPITAL.

7. ANDROPOV REAPPEARS. KGB CHIEF ANDROPOV, A NO-SHOW SINCE DECEMBER 24, REAPPEARED AT THE UK-USSR SIGNING CEREMONY

FEBRUARY 17.

ATLOCK

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